Harley Benton

BA500H
bass head

th•mann
MUSIC IS OUR PASSION

user manual

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1 General notes

This user manual contains important information on safe operation of the device. Read and follow all safety notes and all instructions. Save this manual for future reference. Make sure that it is available to all persons using this device. If you sell the device to other users, be sure that they also receive this manual.

Our products are subject to a process of continuous development. We therefore reserve the right to make changes without notice.

Symbols and signal words

This section provides an overview of the symbols and signal words used in this user manual.

Signal word	Meaning
DANGER!	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates an immediate dangerous situation that will result in death or serious injury if it is not avoided.
CAUTION!	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates a possible dangerous situation that can result in minor injury if it is not avoided.
NOTICE!	This combination of symbol and signal word indicates a possible dangerous situation that can result in material and environmental damage if it is not avoided.

Warning signs	Type of danger
	Warning – high-voltage.

Warning signs	Type of danger
	Warning – danger zone.

2 Safety instructions

Intended use

This device is intended to be used for amplification and playback of signals from musical instruments with electromagnetic pickups. Any other use or use under other operating conditions is considered to be improper and may result in personal injury or property damage. No liability will be assumed for damages resulting from improper use.

This device may be used only by persons with sufficient physical, sensorial, and intellectual abilities and having corresponding knowledge and experience. Other persons may use this device only if they are supervised or instructed by a person who is responsible for their safety.

Safety

DANGER!

Danger for children

Ensure that plastic bags, packaging, etc. are disposed of properly and are not within reach of babies and young children. Choking hazard!

Ensure that children do not detach any small parts (e.g. knobs or the like) from the unit. They could swallow the pieces and choke!

Never let children unattended use electrical devices.

DANGER!

Electric shock caused by high voltages inside

Within the device there are areas where high voltages may be present. Never remove any covers.

There are no user-serviceable parts inside.

DANGER!

Electric shock caused by short-circuit

Always use proper ready-made insulated mains cabling (power cord) with a protective contact plug. Do not modify the mains cable or the plug. Failure to do so could result in electric shock/death or fire. If in doubt, seek advice from a registered electrician.

CAUTION!

Possible hearing damage

With loudspeakers or headphones connected, the device can produce volume levels that may cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment.

Do not operate the device permanently at a high volume level. Decrease the volume level immediately if you experience ringing in your ears or hearing impairment.

NOTICE!

Risk of fire

Do not block areas of ventilation. Do not install the device near any direct heat source. Keep the device away from naked flames.

NOTICE!

Operating conditions

This device has been designed for indoor use only. To prevent damage, never expose the device to any liquid or moisture. Avoid direct sunlight, heavy dirt, and strong vibrations.

NOTICE!

Power supply

Before connecting the device, ensure that the input voltage (AC outlet) matches the voltage rating of the device and that the AC outlet is protected by a residual current circuit breaker. Failure to do so could result in damage to the device and possibly injure the user.

Unplug the device before electrical storms occur and when it is unused for long periods of time to reduce the risk of electric shock or fire.

3 Features

Special features of this powerful bass head:

- High output power: 500 W @ 4 Ω, 250 W @ 8 Ω
- Switchable input sensitivity for active/passive bass guitars
- Multiple options for tone shaping:
  - 6-band graphic EQ
  - Treble and bass control
  - Boost and Bright switch
  - Contour control
- Numerous connection options:
  - Headphones out
  - AUX input
  - Line out
  - Tuner out
  - Foot switch
  - Speaker out

4 Installation and operation

Unpack and check carefully there is no transportation damage before using the unit. Keep the equipment packaging. To fully protect the device against vibration, dust and moisture during transportation or storage use the original packaging or your own packaging material suitable for transport or storage, respectively.

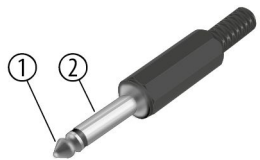
Establish all connections as long as the unit is switched off. Use the shortest possible high-quality cables for all connections.

XLR connector for signal output

A male XLR panel connector is used for the signal output (LINE OUT). The figure and the table below show the pin assignment of a corresponding female XLR connector.

1	Ground
2	Signal (+)
3	Signal (–)

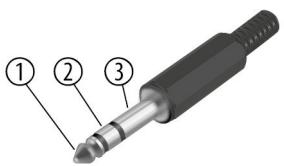
Jack plug for loudspeaker connection and signal input



The figure and the table show the pin assignment of the 1/4-inch (6.35-mm) monaural jack plug.

1	Signal
2	Ground

Jack plug for footswitch

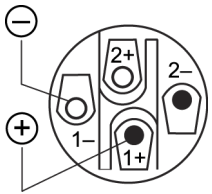


The figure and the table show the pin assignment of the 1/4-inch (6.35-mm) stereo jack plug.

1	Function 1
2	Function 2
3	Ground

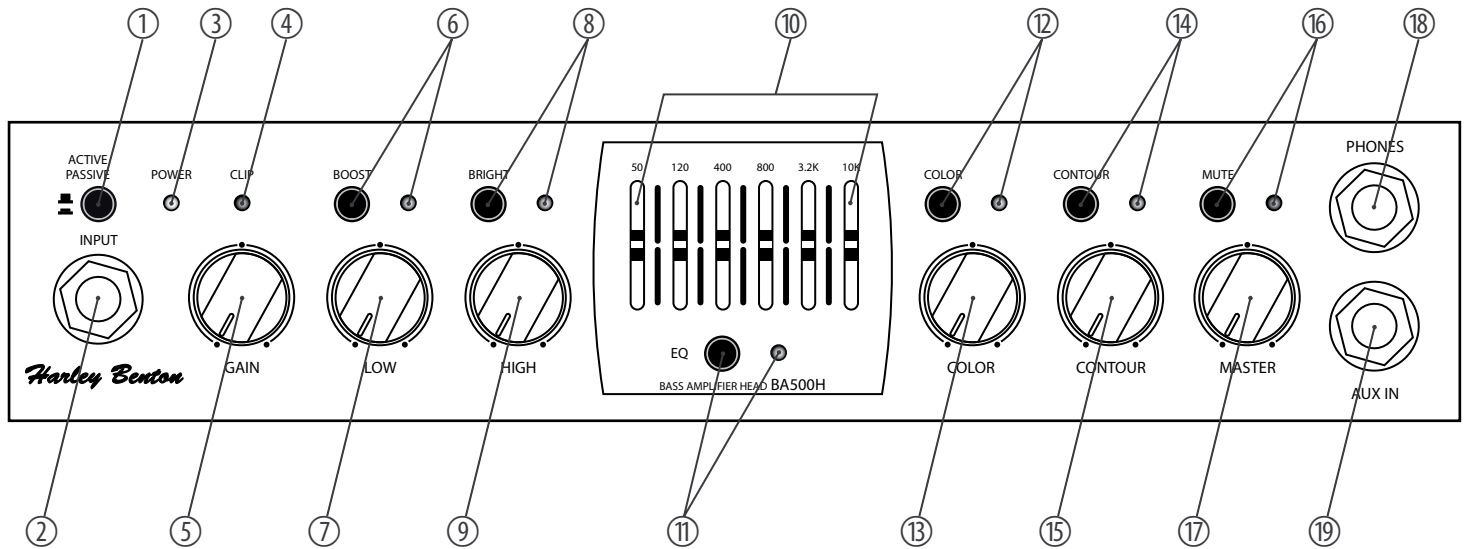
speakON connector for loudspeaker connection

The following figure shows the pin assignment of the lockable speakON panel connector.



5 Components and functions

Front panel



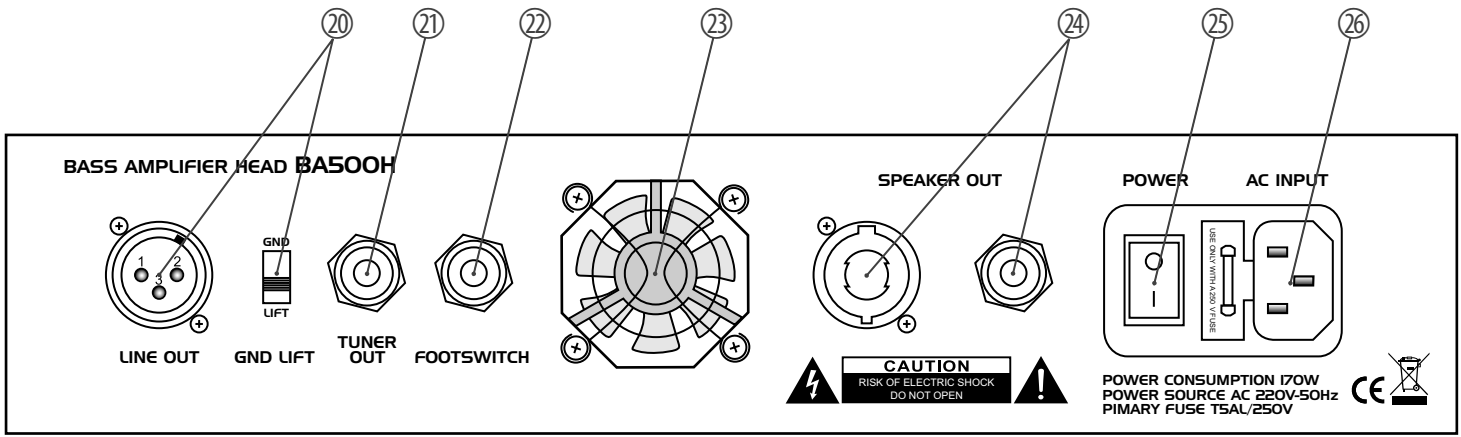
1	**ACTIVE/PASSIVE** Press this switch when connecting a passive bass guitar. Release this switch when connecting an active bass guitar.
2	**INPUT** 1/4" TS phone socket for the input signal coming from your bass guitar.
3	**POWER** This indicator lights up green when the unit is switched on and operational. It lights up red when the power amp is clipping. If this happens, reduce the volume by turning the 'MASTER' control (17) down.
4	**CLIP** This indicator lights up when the preamp is clipping. If this happens, reduce the input gain by turning the 'GAIN' control (5) down.
5	**GAIN** Input gain control.

6	**BOOST** Switch for boosting the low frequencies. The indicator is lit when the function is activated.
7	**LOW** Control to attenuate or increase the low frequencies by ±12 dB.
8	**BRIGHT** Switch for boosting the high frequencies. The indicator is lit when the function is activated.
9	**HIGH** Control to attenuate or increase the high frequencies by ±12 dB.
10	**EQ** This switch activates the 6-band equalizer. The indicator is lit when the equalizer is activated.
11	6-band graphic equalizer for tone shaping. The EQ operates with these centre frequencies: 50 Hz, 120 Hz, 400 Hz, 800 Hz, 3,2 kHz and 10 kHz. Use the sliders to increase or attenuate these frequencies by ±12 dB each.
12	**COLOR** This switch activates the 'COLOR' control (13). The indicator is lit when the function is activated. The 'COLOR' switch is disabled when a foot switch is connected.

13	**COLOR** Control to adjust the acoustic colour – from ‘classic’ to ‘modern’.
14	**CONTOUR** This switch activates the Contour control. The indicator is lit when the function is activated.
15	**CONTOUR** Use this control for mid attenuation and simultaneous increasing of low and high frequencies.
16	**MUTE** This switch mutes speaker and line out, it does not affect the headphones output. The indicator is lit when the function is activated. The ‘MUTE’ switch is disabled when a foot switch is connected.
17	**MASTER** This control adjusts the overall volume. Observe the POWER indicator when setting the volume, as it lights up red in case the amp is overloaded.

18	**PHONES** 1/4" phone socket for headphones connection. When connecting headphones, the speaker and line outs are disabled. To avoid annoying noises, turn the 'MASTER' (17) control down before plugging headphones in or out.
19	**AUX IN** The signals from this additional input enter the amp behind tone stack and EQ. Use the 'MASTER' control (17) to set the volume.

Rear panel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21
22
23
24
25
26
BASS AMPLIFIER HEAD BA500H
GND
LIFT
LINE OUT
GND LIFT
TUNER OUT
FOOTSWITCH
SPEAKER OUT
CAUTION
RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK
DO NOT OPEN
POWER
AC INPUT
USE ONLY WITH 2A/T FUSE
POWER CONSUMPTION 170W
POWER SOURCE AC 220V-50Hz
PIMARY FUSE T5AL/250V

20	**LINE OUT** XLR mounting plug as signal output for direct connection to a mixing console, additional power amps or recording device. **GND LIFT** Should ground loops cause hum, you can use this switch to interrupt the ground wire of the line out.
21	**TUNER OUT** 1/4" TS phone socket to connect a tuner.
22	**FOOTSWITCH** 1/4" TRS phone socket to connect an optional double foot switch to control the 'MUTE' and 'COLOR' function.
23	Fan The fan speed depends on the temperature inside the unit. Always keep the fan unobstructed.
24	**SPEAKER OUT** The loudspeaker signal is available on both a 1/4" TS phone socket, as well as on a lockable speakON mounting connector.

25	**POWER** Use the mains switch to turn the unit on or off.
26	**AC INPUT** IEC chassis connector with fuse holder.

6 Technical specifications

Input	–40 dBu @ 1 MΩ; 1/4" phone socket
Gain	+33 dB max.
Bass control	±12 dB @ 100 Hz
Treble control	±12 dB @ 10 kHz
Equalizer	±12 dB @ 50 Hz, 120 Hz, 400 Hz, 800 Hz, 3.2 kHz and 10 kHz
Color control	700 Hz…20 kHz
AUX input	–10 dBu @ 22 kΩ; 1/4" phone socket
Headphones output	20 mW @ 32 Ω; 1/4" phone socket
Speaker output	500 W @ 4 Ω, 250 W @ 8 Ω; 1/4" phone socket and speakON socket
Line output	Balanced XLR mounting plug
Operating voltage	AC 230 V ~, 50 Hz
Fuse	5 A / 250 V, slow-blow

Dimensions (W × D × H)	311 mm × 253 mm × 64 mm
Weight	3.4 kg

7 Protecting the environment

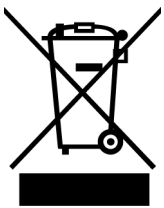
Disposal of the packaging material

For the transport and protective packaging, environmentally friendly materials have been chosen that can be supplied to normal recycling.

Ensure that plastic bags, packaging, etc. are properly disposed of.

Do not just dispose of these materials with your normal household waste, but make sure that they are collected for recycling. Please follow the notes and markings on the packaging.

Disposal of your old device



This device is subject to the European directive 2002/96/EC.

Do not dispose of the device with your normal household waste.

Dispose of this device through an approved waste disposal firm or through your local waste facility. When discarding the device, comply with the rules and regulations that apply in your country. If in doubt, consult your local waste disposal facility.